Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original)   A method for automatically extending a format to include a cell in an electronic spreadsheet, comprising the computer implemented steps of:

determining that a previously blank newly edited cell is an extension to or within a list of cells;

determining that the list of cells has a consistent format; and

automatically extending the consistent format to include the previously blank newly edited cell.

2. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining that a previously blank newly edited cell is an extension of or within a list of cells comprises:

determining that a plurality of previous cells have a consistent data type; and

determining that the previously blank newly edited cell also has the consistent data type.

3. (Original)   The method of claim 2, wherein the plurality of previous cells are above the previously blank newly edited cell in a column.

4. (Original)   The method of claim 2, wherein the plurality of previous cells are beside the previously blank newly edited cell in a row.

5. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining that a previously blank newly edited cell is an extension of a list of cells comprises:

determining that the previously blank newly edited cell is an extension of or within a~~ a column~~ the list, ~~comprising~~ wherein the list comprises a plurality of previous cells above the previously blank newly edited cell in a column, each cell having a first consistent data type; and

if it is determined that the previously newly edited cell is not an extension of or within the column, determining that the previously blank newly edited cell is an extension of or

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within ~~a row~~ <u>the</u> list, ~~comprising~~ <u>wherein the list comprises</u> a plurality of previous cells beside the previously blank newly edited cell <u>in a row</u>, each cell having a second consistent data type.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of determining that the list of cells has a consistent format comprises determining that the ~~column~~ list has a consistent column format; and

wherein the step of automatically extending the consistent format to include the previously blank newly edited cell comprises applying the consistent column format to the previously blank newly edited cell if the cell has only default formatting ~~excluding~~, <u>wherein the default formatting excludes</u> conditional formatting <u>previously applied to the cell</u>.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of clam 5, wherein the step of determining that the list of cells has a consistent format comprises:

determining that the list ~~column~~ list does not have a consistent column format, and

determining that the ~~row~~ list has a consistent row format; and

wherein the step of automatically extending the consistent format to the previously blank newly edited cell comprises applying the consistent row format to the previously blank newly edited cell if the cell has only default formatting ~~excluding~~, <u>wherein the default formatting excludes</u> conditional formatting <u>previously applied to the cell</u>.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions ~~for performing the method of claim 7~~ <u>which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform a method for automatically extending a format to include a cell in an electronic spreadsheet, comprising the steps of</u>:

<u>determining that a previously blank newly edited cell is an extension to or within a list of cells;</u>

<u>determining that the list of cells has a consistent format; and</u>

<u>automatically extending the consistent format to include the previously blank newly edited cell</u>.

9. (Currently Amended) [[A]] <u>The</u> computer readable medium ~~having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing the method~~ of claim [[5]] <u>8, wherein</u>

the step of determining that a previously blank newly edited cell is an extension to a list of cells comprises:

determining that the previously blank newly edited cell is an extension of or within a column list comprising a plurality of previous cells above the previously blank newly edited cell, each having a first consistent data type; and

determining that the previously blank newly edited cell is an extension of or within a row list comprising a plurality of previous cells beside the previously blank newly edited cell, each having a second consistent data type.

10. (Currently Amended)   [[A]] The computer readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim [[1]] 9, wherein the step of determining that the list of cells has a consistent format comprises:

determining that the column list does not have a consistent column format; and

determining that the row list has a consistent row format; and

wherein the step of automatically extending the consistent format to the previously blank newly edited cell comprises applying the consistent row format to the previously blank newly edited cell if the cell has only default formatting excluding conditional formatting.

Claims 11-24 (Canceled)